

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

SB 664 - HB 942

March 30, 2017

SUMMARY OF BILL: Broadens the definitions of “law business” and “practice of law” to include the solicitation by mail or mass media—web-based marketing, television, radio, or billboards.

Authorizes a person to engage in the practice of law in Tennessee if the person has completed the education requirements of Supreme Court Rule 7 §§ 2.01 and 2.02—bachelor’s degree and degree from an ABA-accredited law school—and is currently licensed in any other jurisdiction.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- Tennessee Code Annotated § 23-3-103 prohibits anyone from the unlawful practice of law. A violation of Tenn. Code Ann. § 23-3-103 is a class A misdemeanor.
- The proposed legislation amends Tenn. Code Ann. § 23-3-103 to state that it is not the unlawful practice of law if a person has fulfilled the educational requirement set forth in Supreme Court Rule 7, §§ 2.01 and 2.02, and has been duly licensed in any jurisdiction.
- It is assumed that the proposed legislation will not significantly decrease misdemeanor convictions for the unlawful practice of law.
- It is assumed that redefining “law business” and “practice of law” will not significantly impact misdemeanor convictions or the enforcement of the unlawful practice of law by the Supreme Court.
- The Administrative Office of the Courts confirms that the proposed legislation will not significantly impact court operations.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Krista M. Lee".

Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

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